



AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY

Housing: Question on Plumbing (H-9)

FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL USES OF DATA ABOUT PLUMBING

- The Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) Administration on Aging uses these data to determine the number of older people who live in inadequate housing and who may be candidates for housing assistance programs or placement in alternative housing.
- The HHS's Administration for Children and Families also uses these data to determine the allocation of funds from states to eligible entities and to determine low-income housing needs.
- The HHS's Indian Health Service provides these data to the Congress in an annual report that indicates the level of sanitary deficiency for all sanitation facilities for each federally recognized tribe or community.
- The Department of Housing and Urban Development uses these data to determine the amount of housing assistance distributed to American Indian and Alaska Native populations.
- Health officials use these data to assess the usage of water resources in an area.
- State and local governments, faith-based and other non-profit organizations, and businesses use these data to plan, budget, and pay benefits.

QUESTION AS IT APPEARS IN THE QUESTIONNAIRE

9 Does this house, apartment, or mobile home have **COMPLETE** plumbing facilities; that is, 1) hot and cold piped water, 2) a flush toilet, and 3) a bathtub or shower?

☐ Yes, has all three facilities

☐ No

EXAMPLES OF LEGAL REQUIREMENTS FOR PLUMBING DATA

- Older Americans Act of 1965
- Community Services Block Grant Act
- P.L. 100-713, Section 302(g)(1)

<www.census.gov/acs/www>

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Helping You Make Informed Decisions



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HISTORY OF THE PLUMBING QUESTION

- The question on plumbing has been asked since 1940.
- The question also was asked on the Census 2000 long-form questionnaire.

WHAT IS THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY?

The American Community Survey (ACS) is a nationwide survey that collects socioeconomic and housing information and is the planned replacement for the long form in the 2010 Census.

The U.S. Census Bureau plans to conduct the ACS in every county, American Indian and Alaska Native Area, Hawaiian Home Land, and in Puerto Rico, once it is fully implemented, pending Congressional funding. The ACS has been tested across the country since 1996.

WHY WE ASK IT THIS WAY

Even though the number of units without complete plumbing facilities is becoming a smaller part of the national inventory, information on complete private plumbing facilities still is an important indicator of housing quality and is used in legislation as a condition for receiving community development block grants.

HOW CAN I SEE THE RESULTS OF THE SURVEY ?

The information collected from these tests is published on the Census Bureau's Web site at:

<www.census.gov/acs/www>

and American FactFinder at:

<<http://factfinder.census.gov>>

For more information call, e-mail, or visit our Web site:

1-888-456-7215

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<<http://www.census.gov/acs/www>>

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